(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The final view on the scheme is yet to be taken.

Employees working in Heavy Industries

†3951. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL :
SHRI LAJPAT RAI:

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the strength of employees working in heavy industries under his Ministry has been reduced during the period of March, 1999 to December 2002;

(b) if so, the number of employees working during March, 1999; and December, 2002, respectively; and

(c) the number of employees reduced during the above period, category-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) the number of employees working in PSEs under department of Heavy Industry as on 31.3.1999 and 31.12.2002 was 1,76,801 and 1,12,407 respectively. The total number of employees reduced during the period was 64,394 (Executives 9,188, supervisors 6,386 and workmen/others 48,820).

Publicity in border areas

†3952. SHRIMATI GURCHARAN KAUR:
SHRI BASHISTHA NARAIN SINGH:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that special arrangements have been made for publicity in border areas through mediums like Doordarshan;

(b) the names of the States for which such an arrangement is in force;

(c) the number of proposals received for making documentary on

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

water resources and regional development for these areas alongwith the date on which such proposals were received and the action taken thereon;

(d) whether it is also a fact that such proposals are lying pending for years and the persons who have submitted these proposals have not received and information; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) and (b) Prasar Bharati has informed that doordarshan has mounted special programmes for border areas from DDK, Guwahati, DDK, Jalandhar, DDK, Srinagar and Kashmir Channel.

(c) Prasar Bharati has informed that eight proposals for making documentary on water resources and regional development in the North East have been approved during March, 2003. These proposals were received during the year 2002.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. Prasar Bharati has informed that proposals which are complete in all respects are processed expeditiously as per the extent guidelines.

Introduction of News Bulletin in Assamese

3953. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the implementation status of the special package for NER showing total outlays, amount utilized during 2002-2003 against each of the schemes being executed, indicating proposed allocation during 2003-2004, head-wise and State-wise; and

(b) the implementation status of the introduction of separate daily News Bulletin in Assamese and Mishing languages from DDK and AIR, Dibrugarh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) The state-wise details of the schemes approved under North East Special Package is given in the Statement. *(See* below)

(b) A five minutes daily news bulletin in Assamese is already being mounted from AIR, Dibrugarh. A five minutes weekly news bulletin is